

4/5/76

TELETYPE

URGENT-PRIORITY

TO: DIRECTOR NR. -05

FROM: LEGAT, BUENOS AIRES (109-2) (109-103) (P)

~~SECRET~~

FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS-ARGENTINA; IS-ARGENTINA; ARGENTINE
TERRORIST ACTIVITIES; FPM-ARGENTINA.

ON APRIL 2, 1976, A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ABROAD WHO IS AN
OFFICIAL OF THE FEDERAL POLICE OF ARGENTINA (FPA) DEPARTMENT
OF FEDERAL SECURITY (INTELLIGENCE DIVISION), PROVIDED THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION: ~~(S)~~ (U)

DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 29, 1976, THE FPA DEPARTMENT OF
FEDERAL SECURITY RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM AN ARGENTINE CITIZEN
WHO WAS THE OWNER OF A SUBURBAN FARM LOCATED IN MORENO, BUENOS
AIRES PROVINCE, WHICH HAD BEEN RENTED TO A YOUNG MARRIED COUPLE,
INDICATING THAT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES WERE TAKING PLACE AT THIS
FARM; SPECIFICALLY, THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS HAD BEEN
ASSEMBLING AT THAT LOCATION. THE FPA DEPARTMENT OF FEDERAL
SECURITY DISPATCHED THREE FPA OFFICERS TO INVESTIGATE THE REPORT ~~(S)~~ (U)

2 - Eue (109-2)
(1 - 109-103)
RWS:gjk
(2)

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

~~5-3-01
CLASSIFIED BY 39063 ELW/BCE/RS
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X-1-6
Argentina Project
109-103-354~~

BUE 109-2 109-103 PAGE TWO ~~SECRET~~

IN MORENO. FPA FEDERAL SECURITY OFFICERS CONTACTED THE LOCAL PRECINCT OF THE BUENOS AIRES PROVINCIAL POLICE (BAPP) IN WHOSE JURISDICTION THE FARM IN MORENO FELL, TO ANNOUNCE THEIR IDENTITY AND REQUEST BAPP ASSISTANCE IN CARRYING OUT INVESTIGATION. THE BAPP PROVIDED EIGHT OFFICERS WHO ACCOMPANIED THE FPA FEDERAL SECURITY OFFICIALS TO THE FARM IN QUESTION. ~~(S)~~ (U)

THE FPA FEDERAL SECURITY OFFICIALS, BAPP OFFICERS APPROACHED THE FARM DIRECTLY AND WERE GREETED BY A HAIL OF BULLETS FROM A LARGE NUMBER OF AUTOMATIC WEAPONS WHICH RESULTED IN A VIOLENT SHOOTOUT. ~~(S)~~ (U)

FOURTEENS INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OF THE PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DE TRABAJADORES-PARTIDO SOCIALISTA DE TRABAJADORES (WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY-WORKERS SOCIALIST PARTY) (PRT-PST) and THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP), AN ARGENTINE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, WERE KILLED DURING THE SHOOTOUT. SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION ESTABLISHED THAT THE FARM WAS BEING USED FOR A HIGH LEVEL POLICY MEETING OF THE PRT/PST AND THE ERP WHICH WAS ~~XXXXXXXX~~ ATTENDED BY BETWEEN FIFTY AND SIXTY RANKING LEADERS OF ~~(S)~~ (U)

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THESE ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING ERP LEADERS MARIO ROBERTO SANTUCHO AND DOMINGO MENA. BOTH SANTUCHO AND MENA MANAGED TO ESCAPE DURING THE SHOOTOUT. A LARGE VOLUME OF VALUABLE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING TAPES, WERE SEIZED AT THE FARM AND ARE CURRENTLY BEING PROCESSED AND ANALYZED. (~~S~~) (U)

THE ARGENTINE ARMY, WHICH HAS THE PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR INVESTIGATING AND REPRESSING THE ERP, WAS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE FPA AND RAPPE OPEN APPROACH TO THE FARM WHICH PRECIPITATED THE SHOOTOUT AND ALLOWED SANTUCHO, MENA AND OTHER RANKING PRT/PST AND ERP OFFICIALS TO ESCAPE. (~~S~~) (U)

~~CLASSIFIED BY 5931, XGDS-2 INDEFINITE.~~

ADMINISTRATIVE. SOURCE IS COMISARIO MAYOR CARLOS VICENTE MARCOTE, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR OPERATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE, FPA, DEPARTMENT OF FEDERAL SECURITY. (~~S~~) (U)

COORDINATED LOCALLY.

END